

who proudly served his country. He accomplished so much for such a young man having been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps achievement medal, two sea service deployment ribbons, a Korean defense service medal, two global war on terrorism expeditionary medals, a global war on terrorism service medal, and a national defense service medal.

Sean Elliott touched the lives of all those he met. He leaves behind his loving wife Catherine and his family in San Juan Capistrano. I hope his memory will continue to bring happiness to the lives of his family and friends. I know that no words can describe the overwhelming grief of his family and friends at this time. The only consolation we here can offer is the thanks of the grateful nation he served and our pledge to support his and all other military families across our country. Sean remains a hero whose memory will continue to provide strength, courage, and inspiration to others.

I thank him for the sacrifice he made to protect our country and to help those who long for peace and freedom. I would like to extend my deepest condolences to his loved ones and to his fellow Marines. This unimaginable tragedy reminds us all to cherish those who serve.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed two votes during a vote series on July 12, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Aye on Roll Call No. 351, on the Carbajal motion to recommit the Gaining Responsibility on Water Act (H.R. 23) with instructions to the Committee on Natural Resources; and

No on Roll Call No. 352, on passage of the Gaining Responsibility on Water Act (H.R. 23).

MARIYAH HURTADO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mariyah Hurtado for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Mariyah Hurtado is a student at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Mariyah Hurtado is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mariyah Hurtado for winning the Arvada

Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING TAMETRICE ECKOLS STRICKLAND

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Tametrice Eckols Strickland.

Among the poets, trailblazers, and educational leaders who have paved the way, one of our local educational leaders is Tametrice LaChelle Eckols Strickland, an administrator, mother, daughter, and advisor. Tametrice Strickland was born August 8, 1973, in Marks, Mississippi to L. T. and Lula Eckols. She has lived in the rural town of Lambert, Mississippi, and she has remained there for forty-three years.

Living in the Delta, God and family were at the forefront of daily life. She has been a member of Sykes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church most of her life. Having a relationship with God has been instilled in her. She is currently an evangelist, and she teaches Sunday School and Bible class lessons to adults, works with Sykes Chapel's Youth Ministry, Confinement Ministry, and Nursing Home Ministry.

Her teachers, family, and peers played a vital part in shaping her life. She really enjoyed school and was an honor student from elementary to high school while attending Quitman County public schools. In 1995, she graduated from Quitman County High School as the class president and class Valedictorian. After she graduated from high school, she attended University of Mississippi in Oxford, Mississippi. After she married in the spring, her first son, Larry Strickland, Jr., was born in the winter of her senior year. However, she refused to allow anything to deter her from her dreams. She became more determined, and she persevered. Later that year, she graduated from the University of Mississippi with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English.

In August 1995, she returned to her hometown because she wanted to contribute to her community. She worked at Southside Junior High as a kindergarten instructor. In May of 1996, she transferred to Quitman County Middle School to teach language arts to sixth grade students. After teaching at Quitman County Middle School for two years, she served as an instructional coach. During this time, her second child, Aikeem Strickland, was born with physical and cognitive disabilities. She traveled to Northwest Mississippi Regional Hospital in Clarksdale, Mississippi and Lebonheur Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee almost bimonthly for years. Yet, she graduated in 2010 with a Master of Arts Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Mississippi.

In the summer of 2010 she enrolled in the Mississippi Alternative Path to Quality Leadership Program (MAPQSL) at Coahoma Com-

munity College in Clarksdale, Mississippi. After completing her internship, she became an assistant principal at Quitman County Middle School. She served as an assistant principal for one year. The following year, she became the principal of Quitman County Middle School, and she served in that capacity for two years. She became the director of the first Alternative Pathway to Excellence Program in Quitman County School District. She worked with students who really needed a second chance and assistance with academic and behavior and tried to inspire them to achieve their goals. Instead of going from the pipeline of school to prison, her students went through the pipeline of school to school, college or a career.

Her life has been impacted by her family, instructors, colleagues, and people in her community. Her former instructors showed compassion toward her and positively impacted her life. Tametrice Strickland has been employed with Quitman County School District for twenty-one years and is currently an assistant principal at Madison Shannon Palmer High School. She is an inspiring example of dedication and determination. During her lifetime, she has strived to support and empower instructors and provide support, opportunities, and pathways for students to excel. Her former students are now innovative, highly qualified instructors, visionary administrators, effective managers, responsible nurses, and productive leaders.

In addition to working for Quitman County School District, she has served as a consultant for Mississippi Valley State University Reading Institute for two years. Additionally, she has served as a site coordinator for the Foundation of Economic and Education Development (FEED) and Motivating Parents and Children from August 2003 through May 2006, Lead Teacher for Create of Mississippi in 2005 and presented at the Mississippi Department of Education Summer Conference in June 2006.

Tametrice Strickland has been composing poems and short stories since she was sixth grade. Today, she is still working on poetry books and short stories to publish in the future. Some of her accolades include Who's Who among America's Teachers, Teacher of the Month, Appreciation Award from the Foundation of Economic and Education Development (FEED) and Motivating Parents and Children Program (MPAC), Inspiring Vision Award from Batesville Job Corps Center, and Outstanding Community Service Award from Quitman County Development Organization, Inc.

On May 13, 2017, Tametrice Strickland received her Specialist in Educational Leadership from Arkansas State University. As an educator, her goals remain the same. She wants to motivate students to strive for greatness and discover their full potential. She wants to inspire the next generation to affect a positive change in the Quitman County; this rural location does not determine the students' destination. She believes that students have the ability to discover, create, and excel, and it is their duty to prepare them with the necessary tools.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tametrice Eckols Strickland as an amazing administrator who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
JAMES KYU LEE

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of James Kyu Lee—a loving husband, father, and grandfather—who passed away on May 29, 2017.

James was born in 1932 in Buchon, South Korea where he attended Seoul Technical High School. Shortly after the start of the Korean War, James served valiantly in South Korea's Navy from 1950 to 1953. After the war, James studied at Hong Ik University where he received his bachelor of arts and went on to receive a law degree from Sung Kyun Kwan University. James went on to serve in the Korean Central Intelligence Agency from 1963 to 1978.

In 1980, James immigrated to the United States where he studied and received his California Radiologic Technologist License. He worked at the Medical Clinic as an X-Ray Technician from 1981 to 2002.

He retired in 2002 and enjoyed playing golf in his free time. He remained active in the Korean War Veterans Association and the Korean Navy Veteran Association.

James is survived by his wife, Nan Ja Lee, his three children, Janice Jong Hyun Lee, Chris Hoon Lee, and Brad Hyuck Lee, and seven grandchildren, Alex Lee, Kate Lee, William Lee, Austin Lee, Aaron Lee, Brandon Lee, and Donovan Lee. Three children are happily married. Janice Jong Hyun Lee is married to Jay Lee, Chris Hoon Lee is married to Judy Lee, and Brad Hyuck Lee is married to Julie Lee.

I hope his family can rest knowing James lived a full and happy life. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing James Kyu Lee's amazing life.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 37TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio's 15th Congressional District to recognize the 100th anniversary of the 37th Infantry Brigade of the Ohio Army National Guard. Since July 18, 1917, the Buckeye Brigade has had elements stationed in 126 different communities across Ohio, and has served in major conflicts from the First World War to the modern War on Terrorism.

In 1968, then-Governor of Ohio, James Rhodes, astutely described the Buckeye Brigade: "It was a superb outfit, and such units are made by superb men." The bravery and courage displayed by these soldiers causes pride to resonate in the hearts of Americans, and has earned eight of its members the Medal of Honor.

Individually, they are superb; as a unit, they are all but unstoppable. Seen as heavyweights of our military, the 37th was regarded as the best American division the Germany Army

faced in World War I, and was among the first formations called upon following the attacks of September 11th.

Today, the Buckeye Brigade is made up of approximately 3,500 soldiers in the Ohio and Michigan Army National Guards, and is regarded as the top IBCT in the Army National Guard—which reflects the readiness and abilities of its soldiers.

As a Brigadier General in the Ohio Army National Guard, I am supremely thankful for the sacrifices made over the years by the 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and am honored to recognize the unit on this tremendous occasion. I also extend my thoughts to the Brigade as it is deployed in support of Operation Joint Guard-Kosovo Force, and pray that they return safely to their loved ones.

TRIBUTE TO YOUNG STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress we know well, perhaps better than most, how blessed our nation is to have in reserve such exceptional young men and women who will go on to become leaders in their local communities, states, and the nation in the areas of business, education, government, philanthropy, the arts and culture, and the military.

We know this because we see them and benefit from their contributions every day. Many of them work for us in our offices as junior staff members, congressional fellows, or interns and they do amazing work for and on behalf of the constituents we are privileged to represent.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there is no higher calling than the call to serve a cause larger than ourselves. That is why I ran for public office. I was inspired to serve by President Kennedy who said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," and by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who said:

"Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

By this measure, there are several other great young men and women who served as volunteers this year in my offices. They may toil in obscurity but their contributions to the constituents we serve are deeply appreciated. That is why today I rise to pay tribute to 14 extraordinary young persons for their service to my constituents in the 18th Congressional District of Texas and to the American people. They are: Tiffany Williams from Spelman College and Stanford University; German Barbosa from the University of Houston; Whitley Pannell from Hampton University; Walter Abrego Sara Ali from Texas Tech University; Hadeel Abdallah from the University of Kentucky; Kaleb Taylor from Texas Southern University; Astrid Guerra from Georgetown University; Jeremiah Sung-Eun Kim from Cornell University; Naiya Speight-Leggett of Yale Uni-

versity; Marshall Forney of Morehouse College; Courtney Fontaine of Texas Tech University; Brock Bennett of Morehouse College; Ahmad Awwal of Texas Tech University; and Isabela Belchior from University of Houston Law Center.

Mr. Speaker, the energy, intelligence, and idealism these wonderful young people brought to my office and those interning in the offices of my colleagues help keep our democracy vibrant. The insights, skills, and knowledge of the governmental process they gain from their experiences will last a lifetime and prove invaluable to them as they go about making their mark in this world.

Because of persons like them the future of our country is bright and its best days lie ahead. I wish them all well.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that such thoughtful committed young men and women can be found working in my office, those of my colleagues, and in every community in America. Their good works will keep America great, good, and forever young.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. RO KHANNA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2810) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Chair, I am a strong supporter of our troops and voted to move the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) out of Committee in early July. As I pointed out in my Additional Views expressed in House Report 115–200, however, I remain very concerned with the size of the defense spending increases proposed by the legislation and the required cuts that would likely be necessitated in non-defense discretionary spending. The measure would provide \$621.5 billion for regular national defense activities, which would exceed the \$549 billion cap set in the 2011 Budget Control Act (Public Law 112–25) by \$72 billion. If you include war funds for the Pentagon, nuclear programs at the Energy Department, and mandatory spending, the measure would authorize a total of \$696 billion for FY18.

The BCA was enacted in August 2011 in response to increased deficits in the wake of the Great Recession. The primary method of direct deficit reduction imposed by the BCA was the installation of caps on discretionary spending from FY12 through FY21. There have been three major revisions to the deficit reduction measures imposed by the BCA and each one included parity where the effects on total defense and nondefense budget authority were identical. As a member of the House Budget Committee, I know the discretionary caps are already scheduled to decline by a combined \$5 billion in FY18 relative to FY17 levels. House Republicans have yet to release their Budget Resolution mark which would